

Donate Pull Tabs for Recycling:

Shriners Hospitals for Children®



Collecting tab tops is the easiest way to support children in need!!! It costs no money to put aside the pull tab from a can of soda, soup, pet food or a beer. You can do it at home, provide a container for your place of work or recreation and tell folks about it. Tabs collected at St. Barnabas will be delivered to the Shriner's facility in Cranston. From there, the tabs are delivered to the Shriner's Burn Hospital in Boston where volunteers sort the tabs; weigh and sell the tabs as scrap aluminum to fund programs for hospitalized children, helping kids in all aspects of care and recovery. Amazingly, there is never a charge for children treated at a Shriner's Hospital. So, whenever you pop a top, say a prayer for the children, and bring your tops to our collection center! Keep those tab tops coming and transform them into blessings instead of sending them to the landfill. Just another small way you can make a difference!!! Thank You!!!

FOOD DONATIONS



During these hard economic times, hunger is on the rise. Thanks to your ongoing support, the Community Food Bank has made a difference in the lives of many Warwick residents! Donations of non-perishable foods are gratefully accepted at St. Barnabas Church on Sunday mornings. You may hand your donation to one of our ushers or place it in the Food Basket at the back of the church. All of the food collected is then brought to the West Bay Community Food Bank in Buttonwoods. Many thanks to Dave Hartley who delivers these food items to the Food Bank on our behalf!

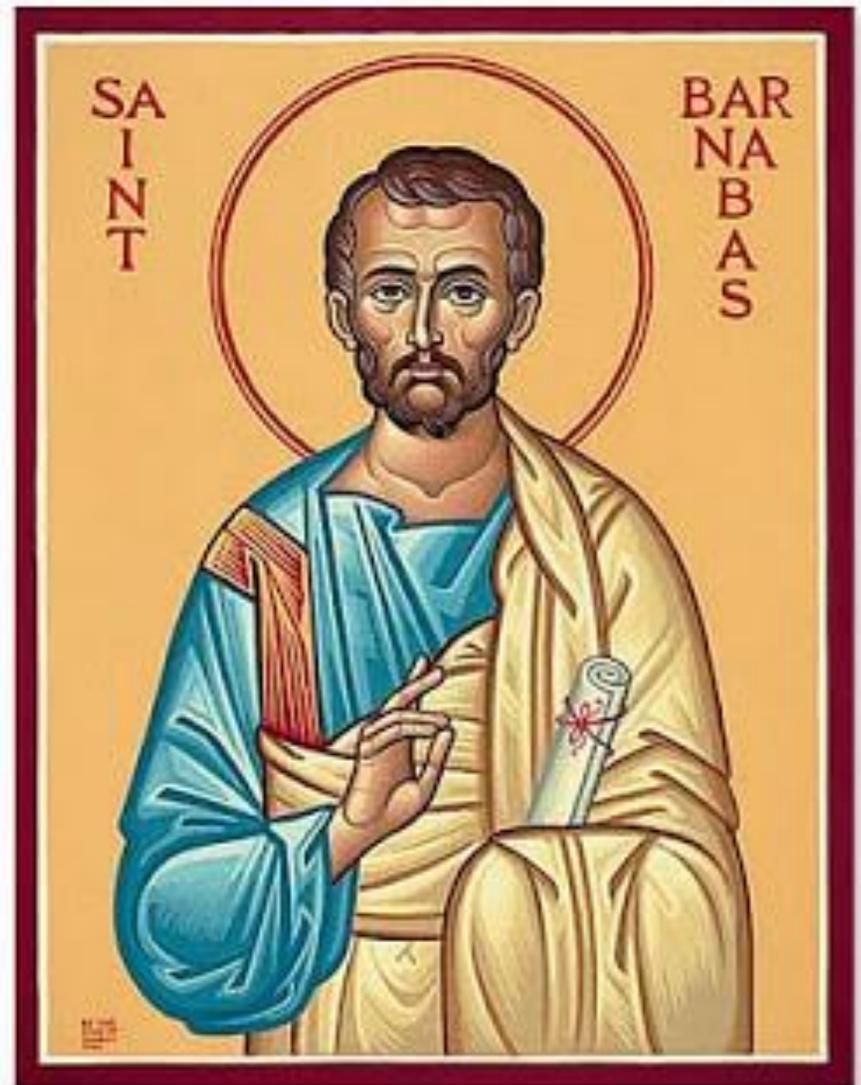
The Encourager

The Mission of St. Barnabas Church is to live and spread the Gospel of Christ as disciples making disciples.

Saint Barnabas Church
3257 Post Rd., Warwick, Rhode Island 02886
www.stbarnabaswarwick.org

401-737-4141

December 2017



Some FatherLee thoughts . . .

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us'

Matthew 1:23

This familiar passage from the Gospel of Matthew is the first Scripture that comes to mind when I think of the season of Advent. The interesting thing about this verse is that Matthew is quoting almost word for word from Isaiah 7:14: "Therefore the Lord will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel." Now, Isaiah is writing at a time when the people of God were on the verge of being conquered and it appeared that all hope was lost. But in that moment of incredible desperation, God makes a promise that there will be restoration. Essentially, bad things will come, but the Lord will bring you through and restore what was broken.

Similarly, Matthew is writing during the time of Roman occupation, and things were not going well. By referencing Isaiah, the Gospel reminds the people that when things seem the most bleak, God is with us and brings us through. By looking back at what the Almighty has done in the past, there is hope for the future, no matter how bad the situation appears. Therefore, this verse which sums up the season of Advent should remind us to remember the past because it gives us hope for the future. When we remember the miraculous way that God has responded before, we know that the Lord will act in a mighty way again, soon. Bad things will happen, but the promise remains: God is with us and will bring us through.

I invite you this Advent, as you look towards Christmas, consider what God has done in the past, both throughout history and in your own life. By looking at the fulfilled promises of the past, we share great hope for the future.

Faithfully,
Fr. Scott Lee

Ordination



One of our own, Ed Beaudreau, along with Julianne Hanavan, will be ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons on Saturday, Dec. 2nd at 10:00 a.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 50 Park Place, Pawtucket, Rhode Island. If you are available, please come and celebrate this moment in the life of the church.

Schedule of Christmas Services



The Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 24th

8:00 a.m. (Rite I)

10:00 a.m. (Rite II)

Christmas Eve, December 24th

4:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Weather permitting there will be a brief moment at the outdoor creche

10:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Christmas Day, December 25th

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Advent Carol Sing



Mark your calendars for a Carol Sing – Pot Luck Brunch on Sunday, December 3rd following the 10:00 a.m. service.

We'll sing traditional Christmas Carols and celebrate the first Sunday of Advent by creating a congregational Advent wreath.

Choose your favorite brunch recipe and bring enough to share. If possible, please bring it hot, but we will have the ovens on.

Make a list of your most beloved carols – the carol is “by request”.

Of course there is never a shortage of fellowship and lots of fun when we do things together.

Vestry 2018



There will be an informational meeting on Monday, December 4th at 6:30 p.m. here at church for anyone interested in learning about what Vestry does. This is particularly important for people contemplating serving on Vestry. Also, we need representatives to Diocesan Convention. Please pray for this process of electing leaders in our church.

Annual Christmas Giving Tree



St. Barnabas is adopting and providing Christmas gifts for families once again this year. As you enter the church you will notice the tree in the back, it is decorated with tags indicating the item each child, mom and dad needs. We have done well in the past and I believe we will once again make some families very happy. We can all wake up Christmas morning knowing we did what the Lord would want us to do.

We will also know that a few families will have smiles on their faces and happy hearts. Here's how the giving tree works:

1. Pick your tag or tags off the tree
2. Purchase your item(s)
3. Wrap each gift and attach the tag to the gift
4. Bring back to church and leave under the tree by Dec. 17th

If you would like to purchase a gift and can't get it to church by the above date, I will gladly pick it up from you. Just give me a call at 401-263-7380 to arrange pick up. The gifts need to be delivered to the school by December 20th.

Thank you in advance for your generous support. If you have any questions please give Beth Marsh a call or reach out to her at church. If needed you can also contact Robin in the office at 737-4141 or by email at parishadmin@stbarnabaswarwick.org



Monthly Youth Sunday on December 3rd



Kids, our monthly Youth Sunday will take place on December 3rd. Kids will be greeters, take the offering, bring the gifts to the altar and have a special talk with Fr. Scott. We hope all the children will be in church on this Sunday!

Healing Prayers on December 3rd



We give you the opportunity on the first Sunday of the month for healing prayers and laying on of hands and anointing. At the end of each service simply move to the front pews of the church. After Fr. Scott greets those leaving church he will join you at the altar rail for prayers and anointing.

Parish Office Closed



The parish office will be closed Monday, December 25th, Tuesday December 26th and Monday, January 1, 2018.

Sing (and Ring) Choirs of Angels!



Do you like to sing? You are invited to join the choir for Christmas, sing favorite hymns and carols, play hand bells, and learn about St. Barnabas' important music ministry in which YOU can participate! All ages! All voice parts needed. Rehearsal times to be announced. You will find a sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

Gifts of Warmth



Our annual gifts of warmth drive will kick off the first Sunday of Advent, Dec 3rd. There will be a large stocking in the back to collect new warm hats, gloves, scarves and socks. All donations will be taken to Crossroads RI and the House of Hope. Any questions please contact Julie Mixner @ jmix99@gmail.com

Come and See



Several people have been working to brighten up the Sunday school rooms downstairs with fresh paint and minor repairs. You are invited to look at the improvements made on behalf of the children of our church

Are you interested in becoming an acolyte?



An acolyte is a minister of the church whose job is to assist the celebrant and to enhance the worship service. This is an important and fun ministry that offers young people the opportunity to fulfill an important function in the liturgy while learning more about the history and tradition of the Episcopal Church. The acolyte ministry at St. Barnabas is open to all children and teens age 8 and older. Acolytes are typically scheduled to serve approximately once every 3-5 weeks, as well as on major liturgical feast days such as Christmas, Easter, etc. New acolytes will have the opportunity to work with Paul or myself, and periodic training sessions will be announced. If your child is considering becoming an acolyte, please see one of us after the 10 a.m. service or contact Paul Schofield at Paul.Andrew.Schofield@GMail.com or Emily Seddon at EHopeS88@GMail.com. We hope to see the number of acolytes serving at St. Barnabas grow!

Youth Group



Youth group is up and running! All middle school and high school students are invited every week for food, fun and conversations about faith. We will meet in Schweitzer Hall beginning at 5:30 p.m. and ending between 7:30 p.m./8:00 p.m. depending on the topic of conversation. Contact Fr. Scott if you have any questions or if you would like to provide a meal for the budding Youth program.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Christmas is a time of beauty and celebration. Our worship space is decorated with beautiful foliage. These plants are given in memory and thanksgiving of loved ones. If you would like to donate towards these decorations, a \$25.00 gift is typical, but any amount is acceptable. Please print the names of those you would like to remember and submit no later than Sunday, December 17th.

In Memory of _____

In Thanksgiving for _____

Christmas Memorial and Thanksgiving Memorials Given By:

Name _____

Telephone _____ Pledge Number _____

*Please make check payable to St. Barnabas Church and note
"Christmas Memorial" on memo line.*

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Advent Carol Sing Sunday, Dec. 3rd immediately following 10:00 service</i>						2
3 First Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. rite I 10:00 a.m. Rite II Youth Sunday Healing Prayers 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	4 6:30 p.m. Vestry Informational Meeting 7:30 pm AA Meeting	5 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	6 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study	7 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	8	9
10 Second Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. - Rite I 10:00 a.m. - Rite II 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	11 6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting 7:30 pm AA Meeting	12 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	13 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study	14 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	15	16
17 Third Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rite I 10:00 a.m. Rite II 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	18 7:30 pm AA Meeting	19 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	20 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study	21 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	22	23
24 Fourth Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rite I 10:00 a.m. Rite II Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. Rite II 10:00 p.m. Rite II	25 Christmas Day Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Parish Office closed 7:30 pm AA Meeting	26 Parish Office closed No Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	27 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study	28 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	29	30
31 First Sunday after Christmas – Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m. Youth Group						